

December 10, 2019

**Public Notice for Water Quality Certification and/or Waste  
Discharge Requirements (Dredge/Fill Projects)  
California Department of Transportation  
Ukonom 3 Drainage Project  
ECM PIN CW-860522; WDID 1A190120WNSI  
Siskiyou County**

On August 06, 2019, the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) received an application from the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), requesting Federal Clean Water Act, section 401, Water Quality Certification (certification) for activities related to the proposed Ukonom 3 Drainage Project (Project).

**Project Location**

The project spans along State Route (SR) 96 between Post Mile (PM) 32.73 and PM 82.67. The project is located at latitude 41.630390°N, longitude -123.465605°W, and 41.830524°N and -122.649885°W, respectively. The project can be accessed by traveling north on Interstate 5 and exiting Highway 96 towards Happy Camp.

**Project Description**

Caltrans will replace eight drainage systems in order to protect roadway failure along SR 96, in Siskiyou County. The project is needed because the existing culverts are deteriorating, resulting in insufficient drainage capacity causing roadway flooding and embankment erosion which will lead to the roadway failure. The following describes the nature of work at each drainage system at the following SR 96 Post Miles:

**PM 32.73**

Remove the existing 18-inch Corrugated Steel Pipe (CSP) (70-foot length) and install a 30-inch Alternate Pipe Culvert (APC) (53-foot length), including a 17-foot down drain. Caltrans will remove the headwall at the existing inlet location and replace it with a drain inlet. Caltrans will also install a Flared End Section (FES) at the end of the culvert outlet.

**PM 33.45**

Remove the existing 18-inch CSP (46.5-foot length) and install a 24-inch APC (48-foot length). The existing culvert will be abandoned, and the new culvert will be installed above it in the fill slope. Caltrans will remove the headwall at the existing inlet location and replace it with a drain inlet. Caltrans will also install a FES and Rock Slope Protection (RSP) will be placed at the culvert outlet.

**PM 33.49**

Remove the existing 18-inch CSP (46-foot length) and install a 30-inch APC (44-foot length) along the existing pipe alignment. Caltrans will replace the existing headwall. Additionally, Caltrans will also install a FES at the end of the culvert outlet.

PM 33.88

Remove the existing 18-inch CSP (224-foot length) and install a 24-inch APC (220-foot length) along the existing pipe alignment. Caltrans will replace the existing drain inlet and replace it with a new drain inlet. Additionally, Caltrans will also install a FES at the end of the culvert outlet.

PM 33.91

Remove the existing 18-inch CSP (59-foot length) and install a 30-inch APC (66-foot length) along the existing pipe alignment. Caltrans will replace the existing inlet headwall and replace it with a new drain inlet. Additionally, Caltrans will also install a FES at the end of the culvert outlet.

PM 35.66

Remove the existing 18-inch CSP (73-foot length) and install a 30-inch APC (69-foot length) along the existing pipe alignment. Caltrans will remove and replace the existing drain inlet FES. Caltrans will also install RSP at the culvert outlet.

PM 63.77

Remove the existing 30-inch CSP (40-foot length) and install a 35-inch APC (42-foot length) along the existing pipe alignment. Caltrans will also install a new FES at the culvert inlet and outlet.

PM 82.67

Remove the existing 24-inch CSP (45.5-foot length) and install a 24-inch APC (47-foot length) along the existing pipe alignment. Caltrans will also install a new drainage inlet with rock apron and a new FES at the culvert outlet.

Disturbed areas will be seeded with native seed and container plants will be planted after the first significant rainfall in late fall or early winter when soil moisture is adequate for planting as part of Caltrans' proposed Revegetation Plan for the Project.

**Construction Timing**

Project construction take 180 days and will occur in the dry season between 2020 and 2022. No work is proposed during the wet season (October 15 through May 15). Any work within jurisdictional waters during the wet season will require approval from the Regional Water Board.

**Impacts**

The Project will result in 728 linear feet of temporary impacts to stream channels and 0.0672 acres of riparian habitat as a result of construction access. The Project will also result in 10 linear feet of permanent impacts to stream channels as a result of culvert outlet treatments.

### **Mitigation for Project Impacts**

Caltrans proposes to implement the *Ukonom 3 Drainage Project Revegetation and Monitoring Plan*, dated September 2019, to address permanent and temporary impacts associated with the Project.

### **Post-Construction Storm Water Treatment**

The Project will not replace or increase impervious surface larger than one acre. Post-construction storm water treatment is not required for this Project.

### **Other Agency Permits**

The Applicant has applied to the United States Army Corps of Engineers for Nationwide Permit No. 3 (Non-Reporting) pursuant to section 404 of the Clean Water Act. Additionally, the Applicant has applied for a 1600 Lakebed Streambed Alteration Agreement from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

### **CEQA**

The North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (NCRWQCB) has determined that the Project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption 15301 Existing Facilities (f). The NCRWQCB will file a Notice of Exemption with the State Clearinghouse concurrent with issuance of the 401 Water Quality Certification, pursuant to CEQA guidelines.

### **Public Comments**

Regional Water Board staff are proposing to regulate this Project pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1341) and/or Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act authority. The information contained in this public notice is only a summary of the Applicant's proposed activities. The application for Water Quality Certification in the Regional Water Board's file contains additional details about the proposed Project including maps and photos. The application and Regional Water Board file are available for public review at the Regional Water Board office, 5550 Skylane Blvd, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California. Appointments are recommended for document review and can be made by calling (707) 576-2220.

If you have any questions, please contact staff member Brandon Stevens at [Brandon.Stevens@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Brandon.Stevens@waterboards.ca.gov) or (707) 576-2377 within 21 days of the posting of this notice.

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